one of the branch channels in the system, and a request was made to ensure that the koyas got their customary supply of water. On the assumption that the agreement of 1870 was genuine and binding on the Government, the Government ordered in August 1947, that pending investigation of all the points at issue, the koyas should be permitted to temporarily cross-bund the Bottugakoyakannam, subject to the condition that the lands lower down (which were then zamindari) were not adversely affected. The Government also authorised the Collector of West Godavari to remove the temporary cross-bunding if at any time he considered it necessary. Subsequently in November 1949, the Government considered the question afresh in the light of the further reports submitted by the Collector and the Board of Revenue and decided to postpone it till after the Billumilli estate was taken over under the Abolition Act. The estate was taken over by the Government on 7—9—1950 and the Government are now awaiting proposals from the Board of Revenue in regard to the final settlement of the disputes over the waters of the Bandakattu channels. Action is also being taken to see what improvements are necessary to these channels."

9-30 a.m. MR. SPEAKER :—" In future, long answers may be placed on the table so that we may save the time of the House."

District Food Production Committees.

* 428 *Q.*—SRI M. RAJESWARA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the functions of the District Food Production Committees ; and

(*b*) whether the recommendations and resolutions of the Committee are binding on Government?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) The functions of the District Food Production Committees are—

(i) to hear representations of ryots seeking assistance for increasing production of foodgrains in their holdings;

(ii) to review the working of the various Grow More Food Schemes in the District and submit periodical reports to the Provincial Committee at Ministerial level ; and

(iii) to make recommendations to the Provincial Committee on Grow More Food measures.

" (*b*) No."

Headquarters Deputy Tahsildars.

* 429 *Q.*—SRI G. RAMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state, in how many taluk offices in the State, Headquarters Deputy Tahsildars have been appointed?